CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method of configuring network devices comprising:

2   preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page comprising a

3   form having a plurality of input fields and a submit button;

4   associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining information about

5   a state of a particular network device, and a second submit method for

6   changing the state of the particular network device;

7   sending the page to the client process; and

8   in response to activation of the submit button in the client process, executing routines

9   to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method

10   associated with the form.

1   2.   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein the form includes a hidden variable having a

2   value for uniquely identifying the particular network device.

1   3.   A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said executing routines to operate on the

2   particular network device comprises,

3   determining whether a first variable for data input associated with the first

4   submit method is empty, and

5   if it is determined that the first variable is not empty, then

6   executing get routines to obtain information about the state of the

7   particular network device, and

8   assigning values for the plurality of input fields based on the

9   information about the state of the particular network device;

10   and

11   wherein the method further comprises sending the page to the client process including

12   the form with the second submit method after said assigning.

1   4.   A method as recited in Claim 3, wherein said executing routines to operate on the
2   particular network device further comprising:
3   if it is determined that the first variable is empty, then:
4   obtaining current values of the plurality of input fields from a second variable
5   associated with the second submit method; and
6   executing set routines to change the state of the particular network device based on
7   the current values of the plurality of input fields.

1   5.   A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
2   the first submit method is a form get method returning values of the plurality of input
3   fields in a first environmental variable; and
4   the second submit method is a form post method returning values of the plurality of
5   input fields in a second environmental variable.

1   6.   A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
2   the second submit method is a form get method returning values of the plurality of
3   input fields in a first environmental variable; and
4   the first submit method is a form post method returning values of the plurality of input
5   fields in a second environmental variable.

1   7.   A method as recited in Claim 5, wherein the page is a Hypertext Markup Language
2   (HTML) page; the first environmental variable is a "Request.QueryString"; and the second
3   environmental variable is a Request.Form.

1   8.   A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the steps of preparing a page and executing
2   routines are performed by a processor configured based on statements of a scripting language
3   in a single script file.

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1 9.   A method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the form further comprises a reference to the

2 single script file associated with activation of the submit button.

1 10.   A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for

2 configuring network devices, which instructions, when executed by one or more processors,

3 cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

4   preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page comprising a

5   form having a plurality of input fields and a submit button;

6   associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining information about

7   a state of a particular network device, and a second submit method for

8   changing the state of the particular network device;

9   sending the page to the client process; and

10   in response to activation of the submit button in the client process, executing routines

11   to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method

12   associated with the form.

1 11.   A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 10, further comprising instructions

2 which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to

3 carry out the steps of:

4   during said executing routines to operate on the particular network device,

5   determining whether a first variable for data input associated with the first

6   submit method is empty, and

7   if it is determined that the first variable is not empty, then

8   executing get routines to obtain information about the state of the

9   particular network device, and

10   assigning values for the plurality of input fields based on the

11   information about the state of the particular network device;

12   and

13   sending the page to the client process including the form with the second submit

14   method after said assigning.

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1   12.   A computer system for configuring network devices:

2   a network interface; and

3   one or more processors connected to the network interface, the one or more

4   processors configured for

5   preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page

6   comprising a form having a plurality of input fields and a submit

7   button;

8   associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining

9   information about a state of a particular network device, and a second

10   submit method for changing the state of the particular network device;

11   sending the page to the client process; and

12   in response to activation of the submit button in the client process, executing

13   routines to operate on the particular network device based on a submit

14   method associated with the form.

1   13.   An apparatus for configuring network devices, the apparatus comprising:

2   a means for preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page

3   comprising a form having a plurality of input fields and a submit button;

4   a means for associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining

5   information about a state of a particular network device, and a second submit

6   method for changing the state of the particular network device;

7   a means for sending the page to the client process; and

8   a means for executing routines to operate on the particular network device, in

9   response to activation of the submit button in the client process based on a

10   submit method associated with the form.

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